From:

Raymond Isaacson

To:

Terri Lamb

Cc:

Raymond Isaacson

Date:

8/22/2006 2:20:07 PM

Subject: RE: Public Comment

Dear Ms. Lamb,

It appears that you will have a full agenda. While I would like to make some comments, I would appreciae it if you could distribute a copy of questions that I am still waiting for answers from the DOE. All are pertinent to the GNEP Program, and as others will testify, use of the FFTF and ancillary facilities should save billions of dollars.

I am submitting this list of questions for the record and I look forward to honest, straight forward answers to each question.

Thank you for your attention to this e-mail.

Raymond E. Isaacson

Graduate Chemical Engineer & Senior Engineering Advisor to Rockwell Hanford

Operations, Retired.

Also, Washinton State Legislator and Benton County Commissioner, Retired.

Needs that can be met using the Fast Flux Test Facility

- 1. Develop parameters and fuel specifications for mixed oxide fuel to utilize the excess plutonium stockpile as an energy supply.
- 2. Disclose the energy available in the plutonium stockpile that is excess to defense needs.
- 3. Why is the Plutonium Processing plant essential to these needs?
- 4. How much energy, in megawatt hours, is potentially available from the excess plutonium stockpile?
- 5. What is the form of plutonium?
- 6. If it is metal, it can be made into Nuclear weapons very readily; if it is in the form of plutonium oxide it can be fluorinated very readily and reduced to metal using the simple displacement reaction with metallic calcium. These are well known processes that can be carried out in glove boxes. (While plutonium is highly toxic as a heavy metal, it is not highly radioactive and can be handled with minimal protective equipment).
- 7. Referring to Item 4., above, What is the equivalent no. of barrels of oil or tons of coal. What is the dollar value of each. How does this compare to the cost of using FFTF to develop and demonstrate the burning of plutonium in a reactor and making it possible to realize the energy value of the surplus plutonium? (After burning the plutonium in a reactor, it could not be converted to nuclear weapons because of its radioactivity !!!!)
- 8. How many tons of carbon dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, and sulfur dioxide will be reduced by not burning coal, natural gas, or petroleum.

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